

MINUTES OF THE
HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2008, 2:00 P.M.
Room W020, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Rep. Kory M. Holdaway, Co-Chair
Sen. Brent Goodfellow
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Mel Brown
Rep. David Clark
Rep. Brad Daw
Rep. John Dougall
Rep. Kay McIff
Rep. Curt Webb
Rep. Chris Johnson
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff

Members Absent: Sen. Greg Bell, Co-Chair
Sen. Curtis Bramble
Sen. Dan Eastman

Staff Present: Spencer Pratt, Senior Legislative Fiscal Analyst
Karen C. Allred, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: William Sederburg, President, Utah Valley State College
Chris Coles, President, Student Government (UVUSA), UVSC
Steven Clark, President, UVSC Faculty Senate
Clint Moser, President, Staff Association , UVSC
Ann Millner, President, Weber State University
Dave Buhler, Commissioner, USHE
David Feitz, Executive Director, UVSC
Dr. Steve Hess, Chief Information Officer, USHE

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

1. Call to Order—Committee Co-Chair Rep. Kory M. Holdaway, called the meeting to order at 2:15pm
2. **Institutional Presentation:**

Utah Valley State College

William Sederburg, President, Utah Valley State College, introduced Chris Coles, President, Utah Valley University Student Association, Steve Clark, President, UVSC Faculty Senate, and Clint Moser, President, Staff Association, UVSC. A handout was distributed to the committee. Pres. Sederburg started his presentation by recapping the top stories of 2007. He then gave an accountability update. UVSC has 23,840 total students, 16,135 full time employees, a student to faculty ratio of 20:1, and advisor to student ratio of 1:453, and 57 Bachelor degrees. UVSC is a major economic force in the region, it is an accredited university, it has a library structure underway (ribbon cutting is July 1, 2008), and its NCAA team will be moving into Division 1. Pres. Sederburg reported

that the \$8 million received last year was used for hiring faculty and staff and office space. They plan to put away \$1.7 million for hiring additional faculty and staff to bring the advisor to student ratio down. The plan for UVSC to become a university is going well and its strategy for the future is to start with a model of people, place and profession engaging learning through the community. The priorities for UVSC are to use the remainder of the \$10 million (\$2 million) for masters degree programs, compensation to retain critical faculty, and for the TEACH Utah initiative. UVSC has the largest ever on-campus enrollment, they are a vibrant developing institution, contributing to the local community, region and the state.

Chris Coles, President, UVUSA spoke on how gratifying it is to be a student leader and how excited he is for the change to UVU.

Steve Clark, President Academic Senate, UVSC, thanked the committee for its support and how the number of full-time faculty they have been able to add has had a great influence on the University.

Clint Moser, President, Staff Association, UVSC (he represents the full and part-time staff) mentioned how the energy has increased greatly because of the added staff.

Weber State University

Ann Millner, President, WSU distributed a handout to the committee. Pres. Millner explained that Weber State is a comprehensive, multi-campus, teaching university. It is both a community college and a university for the region, serving Utah students, with 70% of its students from Weber and Davis Counties. Weber is a multi-campus university with 15% of all student credit hours in fall 2007 being earned in online classes. Weber also has outreach programs and partnerships. Weber has been nationally recognized, with three faculty members receiving the Carnegie Foundation Award, being one of 4 universities invited to perform "Macbeth" at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and at the same time had NCAA playoffs on the west coast. The focus of WSU is to prepare Utahns for the workforce. The top 9 degree programs at WSU over the last 5 years are all focused on workforce preparation and WSU is a leader in preparing health professionals. In addition to graduating one-third of the nurses in the USHE over the last 3 years, other growing health profession programs include radiological technology, clinical lab science, dental hygiene, and respiratory therapy. Its Career and Technical Education are low in cost and the least subsidized. Weber partnerships with Hill Air Force Base and Northern Utah Academy of Math, Engineering, and Science. WSU was selected to serve as the USTAR Technology Outreach for northern Utah and has undergraduate research achievements. The vision for WSU for the future is to have more integrating research with learning. It wants to be a community and economic driver for Northern Utah, and remain a comprehensive university where teaching comes first. Pres. Millner expressed appreciation for helping make progress in getting the employees' salaries closer to the national averages, and for the much needed funds for fuel and power because of an increase in costs. The budget priorities for WSU are Aerospace and Defense, Health Professionals, and Teachers.

3. Institutional Priorities (Issue Brief USHE -- 09)

Analyst Spencer Pratt discussed the recommendation for the prioritization of \$2 million as the second installment of funding for Utah Valley State College to attain university status. This will be used at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, providing additional faculty and staff. The information on this issue brief is found on page 19, behind tab 3 in the Budget Analysis FY 2009 Book.

4. **Operations and Maintenance (Issue Brief USHE -- 01)**

This issue brief is found behind Tab 3 on page 1 of the Budget Book. The O & M funds are backed out with One-Time State Funds until a building is completed. There are now 3 non-state funded buildings completed that need O & M funding. Analyst Spencer Pratt is making a recommendation for this to be added back in to the O & M funding for these three buildings.

Commissioner Buhler distributed a handout and commented on the recommendation for Issue Brief 01. He questioned why the O & M is different for non-state funded buildings, and should it be addressed in the Capital Management Committee rather than this committee. The discussion was that since it is in this committee this year, we should deal with it, and in another year it may be switched to the Capital Management Committee, but Legislative Management Committee needs to make the decision.

MOTION: Rep. Clark moved to have a letter drafted for the Legislative Management Committee to decide whether or not to have O&M funds for a non-state funded building be addressed in the Capital Facilities Committee rather than the Higher Education Appropriations Committee.

The motion passed unanimously with Sens. Goodfellow and Bigelow absent for the vote.

On page 3 of this same brief, it is recommended that the one-time reduction for 4 facilities back out a portion or all of its O & M funds, because they are not yet operating.

4. **Financial Aid (Issue Brief USHE -- 02)**

On page 5, behind tab 3 is Issue Brief 02, the Analyst recommends committing funds for FY 2009 and FY 2008 for four student financial aid programs.

The Analyst recommends that the committee add to its priorities list, ongoing base funding, as well as one-time funding for the Utah Centennial Opportunity Program for Education, as explained on page 5 of Issue Brief 02.

To accommodate expected growth in the New Century Scholarships program, the Analyst recommends adding funding for FY 2009 and FY 2008, as explained on page 6 of Issue Brief 02.

David Feitz, Executive Director, UHEAA distributed a handout and responded to these recommendations. He explained that UHEAA is the financial aid arm of the Board of Regents and a major financial aid provider for Utah. They provide aid without state appropriations. Their loan volume has grown and any money appropriated will immediately be put to work.

5. **IT Physical Infrastructure (Issue Brief USHE -- 03)**

Dr. Steve Hess, Chief Information Officer, USHE distributed a handout to the committee. Dr. Hess discussed the recommendation by the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to recommend funding to address increases in software costs in USHE information technology. Software maintenance has to be done every year and there has never been IT Physical Infrastructure in on-going funding. The buildings are funded, but not the IT Infrastructure. Every institution is asked to give an inventory of their routers/switches and servers. The institutions will receive this funding. Funding IT is a vital tool for

Higher Education because of the heavy reliance of IT; security and privacy; student, faculty and staff needs; and IT and strategic direction.

6. **Fleet expansion requests**

This item on the agenda needed to be approved, and there was not a quorum available at the time of discussion, so it will be put on the next agenda for discussion.

7. **Federal Mandates and Preemptions in Higher Education**

Rep. Holdaway received an email concerning HR4137 asking if he would be willing to write a letter and send it to our senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. This has already been done in the Senate, spearheaded by Sen. Dayton. Rep. Dougall will check with Sen. Dayton and follow up on this.

Committee Co-Chair Holdaway adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Minutes were reported by Karen C. Allred, Secretary.

Sen. Greg Bell, Committee Co-Chair

Rep. Kory M. Holdaway, Committee Co-Chair